IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims and cancelled claims) is set forth below. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 1-3, 5, and 11; AMEND claims 4, 8, 10, 12, 14 and 17 in accordance with the following:

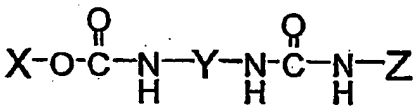
1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A composition used for preparation of a color development system comprising a dispersion in which a component (a) comprising at least one urea-urethane compound having one or more urea groups and one or more urethane groups in the same molecule, and a coloring inhibitor component (b), which is at least one compound selected from a silicate, a carbonate, a sulfate, a phosphate, a metal oxide, a metal hydroxide, a hindered phenol compound, a hindered amine compound, and an acetoacetic acid derivative are dispersed in a liquid medium

wherein at least one of component (a) and component (b) has been subjected to heat treatment at a temperature of 40°C to 90°C.

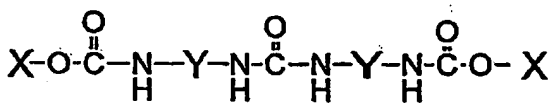
5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) The composition according to Claim 4, wherein the component (a) urea-urethane compound is at least one compound represented by the following formulas (I) to (VI):



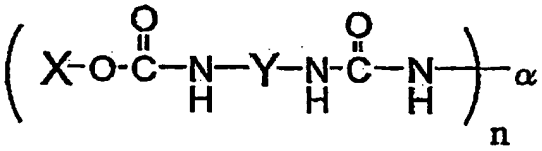
(I)

wherein each of X, Y, and Z represents an aromatic compound residue, a heterocyclic compound residue, or an aliphatic compound residue, and each residue may have a substituent;



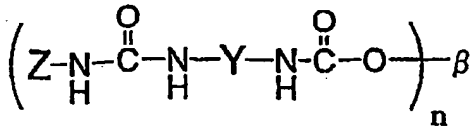
(II)

wherein each of X and Y represents an aromatic compound residue, a heterocyclic compound residue, or an aliphatic compound residue, and each residue may have a substituent;



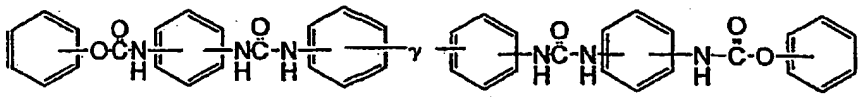
(III)

wherein each of X and Y represents an aromatic compound residue, a heterocyclic compound residue, or an aliphatic compound residue, α represents a residue having a valence of 2 or greater, n represents an integer of 2 or greater, and each residue may have a substituent;



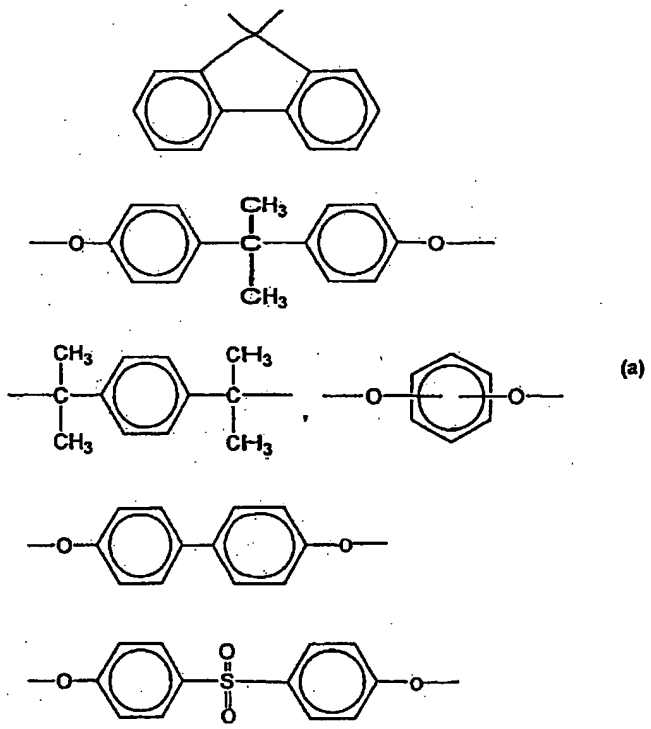
(IV)

wherein Z and Y represent an aromatic compound residue, a heterocyclic compound residue, or an aliphatic compound residue, β represents a residue having a valence of 2 or greater, n represents an integer of 2 or greater, and each residue may have a substituent;

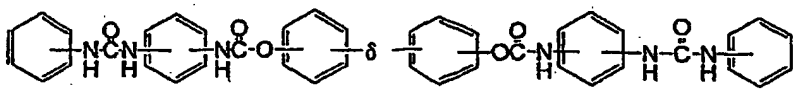


(V)

wherein a hydrogen atom on a benzene ring may be substituted with an aromatic compound residue, a heterocyclic compound residue, or an aliphatic compound residue, each residue may have a substituent, γ represents any of $-SO_2-$, -O-, $-(S)_n-$, $-(CH_2)_n-$, -CO-, -CONH-, a compound of any of the following formulas (a), or a direct bond, and n is 1 or 2; and



(a)



(VI)

wherein a hydrogen atom on a benzene ring may be substituted with an aromatic compound residue, a heterocyclic compound residue, or an aliphatic compound residue, each residue may have a substituent; δ represents any of $-SO_2-$, -O-, $-(S)_n-$, $-(CH_2)_n-$, -CO-, -CONH-, -NH-, $-CH(COOR_1)-$, $-C(CF_3)_2-$, $-CR_2R_3-$ or a direct bond, R_1, R_2, and R_3 represent an alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, and n is 1 or 2.

7. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 4, wherein the component (b) coloring inhibitor is at least one member selected from magnesium silicate, calcium silicate, magnesium carbonate, calcium carbonate, calcium sulfate, magnesium phosphate, 2,2'-methylenebis(4,6-di-t-butylphenyl)sodium phosphate, magnesium oxide, aluminum oxide, titanium oxide, magnesium hydroxide, 1,1,3-tris(2-methyl-4-hydroxy-5-cycloheylphenyl)butane, 1,1,3-tris(2-methyl-4-hydroxy-5-t-butylphenyl)butane, tris(2,6-dimethyl-4-

t-butyl-3-hydroxybenzyl)isocyanurate, acetoacetic acid anilide, and acetoacetic acid m-xylidide.

8. (Currently Amended) The composition according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 4, further comprising an acidic developer component (c) which is at least one compound selected from a phenol derivative, an aromatic carboxylic acid derivative or a metal salt compound thereof, a salicylic acid derivative or a metal salt compound thereof, an N,N-diarylthiourea derivative, and a sulfonylurea derivative.

9. (Original) The composition according to Claim 8, wherein the phenol derivative of the acidic developer component (c) is at least one member selected from 2,2-bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)propane, bis(4-hydroxyphenyl) sulfone, 4-isopropyloxyphenyl-4'-hydroxyphenylsulfone, 2,4'-dihydroxydiphenylsulfone, bis(3-allyl-4-hydroxyphenyl) sulfone, and benzyl 4-hydroxybenzoate.

10. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim 4, wherein the heat treatment has been carried out at a temperature of 40°C to 90° for 3 hours or more~~comprising a dispersion obtained by dispersing the component (a) urea-urethane compound in a liquid medium and heating the mixture at 40°C or more~~.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim 4, wherein both of component (a) and component (b) have been subjected to heat treatment at a temperature of 40°C to 90°C for 3 hours or more ~~comprising a dispersion obtained by dispersing the component (a) urea-urethane compound in a liquid medium and heating the mixture at 40°C or more, and a dispersion obtained by dispersing the coloring inhibitor component (b) in a liquid medium and heating the mixture at 40°C or more~~.

13. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 4, wherein the content of the coloring inhibitor component (b) is 1 part by mass or more and less than 50 parts by mass per 100 parts by mass of the urea-urethane compound component (a).

14. (Currently Amended) The composition according to ~~claim 1~~claim 4, wherein the urea-urethane compound component (a) and/or the coloring inhibitor component (b) are

dispersed using at least one dispersant selected from the group consisting of a nonionic water-soluble polymer compound, an anionic water-soluble polymer compound, an anionic surfactant, a nonionic surfactant and an amphoteric surfactant.

15. (Original) The composition according to Claim 14, wherein the urea-urethane compound component (a) and/or the coloring inhibitor component (b) are dispersed using at least one dispersant selected from the group consisting of a nonionic or anionic water-soluble polymer compound selected from a polyvinyl alcohol derivative and a cellulose derivative, and an anionic surfactant.

16. (Original) The composition according to Claim 15, wherein the polyvinyl alcohol derivative is sulfonic acid-modified polyvinyl alcohol, the cellulose derivative is hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose and the anionic surfactant is at least one member selected from a metal salt of β naphthalenesulfonic acid formalin condensate and a polycarboxylic acid derivative surfactant.

17. (Currently Amended) A recording material comprising a color development layer containing a composition according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 4 arranged on a substrate.

18. (Original) The recording material according to Claim 17, wherein the recording material is a thermal recording material.